

MINUTES

OF THE

Sixty-Fourth Annual Session of the
Willis Creek Primitive Baptist
Association.

HELD WITH MT. PLEASANT CHURCH

October 5, 6 and 7, A. D., 1900.

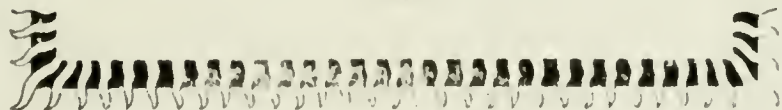
Officers of the Association :


J. B. FRANKLIN, Moderator.

H. T. GRAVES, Clerk.

1900.

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The Cause of the Re-Organization of The Wills' Creek Primitive Baptist Association.

Which was constituted in 1836, and declared to be a Primitive Baptist Association in 1840. Her resolutions were as follows.

ARTICLE 26. That this Association will not fellowship any church or churches, nor hold them in union, who are engaged in supporting any Missionary, Bible, Tract or Sunday School Union Societies, or advocate State conventions or Theological Schools, or Secret Institutions, or any other society that has been, or may hereafter be founded, under the pretense of circulating the Gospel of Jesus Christ; nor correspond with any Association engaged, or supporting any of the above named institutions, they being without a "thus saith the Lord" for them.

In 1843 there was a query brought into the Association by one of the churches, as follows: How shall we receive those who have gone off with the Missionary Baptists? Answer—By Recantation. Secondly—How shall we receive those who have been received by Missionaries since our separation from them? Answer—In the good old way, by experience and baptism.

From which resolutions and practice there has been a departure, the churches receiving members from other Baptists on what they call confession of faith without baptizing them, and some of the churches being unwilling to renounce the practice, and to return to former principles, caused a division of the Association.

Therefore we, a portion of the churches of the said Association, being unwilling to conform to the practice in which she has fallen, believing it to be unscriptural, and not according to primitive practice. Therefore, deeming it necessary to re-organize the Wills Creek Association upon former faith and practice; met with the church at Macedonia, Jackson county, Friday before the fourth Sunday in July, 1880, at which time and place the Association was organized by the election of Elder J. B. Fraeklin, Moderator; T. M. K. Galloway, Clerk; and after transacting the business necessary to come before the body, adjourned to meet with the church at Black Oak, Friday before the first Sunday in October, 1880.

**Proceedings of the Sixty-Fourth Annual Session
of Wills Creek Primitive Baptist Association,
Held With Mt. Pleasant Church,
October 5th, 6th and 7th, A. D., 1900.**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1900.

1. Elder J. T. Perry came forward and preached the introductory sermon from the following text: Seventh verse of the 12th Chapter of Proverbs, "The wicked are overthrown, and are not: but the house of the righteous shall stand."

2. Intermission of thirty minutes, after which prayer by P. J. Meadows.

3. Called for letters of the several churches, which were read and received: Except Union, Ga., not represented, and Antioch and Shiloh Creek whose letters were tabled. (See table).

4. Called for churches desiring admission into our body. Received none.

5. The Association then organized by electing Elder Joe R. Franklin, Moderator and H. T. Graves clerk.

6. Invited ministers and brethren of our faith and practice to seats with us.

7. Appointed a committee to arrange the programme for preaching during our meeting, to wit: D. H. Newland, John Bent and L. M. Dawson, together with the delegates from Mt. Pleasant Church.

8. Appointed a committee to arrange the business to come before the Association, to wit: R. E. Wilkes, A. Graves, J. P. Morgan, together with the Moderator and Clerk.

9. Appointed a committee on Finance, to wit: H. H. Nichols and H. S. W. Bates.

10. Called for correspondence.

11. Moved and carried that the same committee appointed at last Association, except the one from Union, Ga., be requested to yet visit Black Oak church on Tuesday, Shiloh Creek on Wednesday, and Antioch on Friday after second Sunday in November, for the purpose of establishing and settling the troubles existing and report the same at the next Association. It is further agreed that, if the trouble is not settled, the Moder-

ator may have the authority to call the committee to visit those churches again at any time he should wish to do so before the next Association.

12. By motion the Association adjourned to meet Saturday morning at 9 o'clock a. m.

SECOND DAY SATURDAY MORNING.

1. The Association met according to adjournment. Prayer by Moderator.

2. Called the roll.

3. Called for the report of the committee on arrangements. Report received and committee discharged.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS.

We, the committee, agree to adopt the regular order of business with the necessary amendments.

4. Called for reading the Articles of Faith and Rules of Discipline.

5. Invited ministers and brethren of our faith and practice to seats with us.

6. Agreed that the Union meeting of the first district be held with Black Oak church near Dad, Ala., beginning on Friday before the first Sunday in August, 1901, also that the Union meeting of the second district be held with Moordunka church, near Ida, Ala., beginning on Friday before the fourth Sunday in August, 1901.

7. Agreed that the next Association be held with Courtth church near Pyke, Ala., beginning on Friday before the first Sunday in October, 1901.

8. Called for the report of the committee on finances. The committee reported \$11.00 contributed for salaries.

9. Elected Elder Jas. B. Franklin to preach the next, the following sermon, Elder P. J. Meadows, alternate.

10. Agreed that the clerk superintend the printing and distribution of the minutes, and that we have six hundred copies struck, and that he may have the balance of contributions, if any, for his services.

11. We tender the people of Mt. Pleasant church and vi-

cinity our sincere thanks for their kind hospitality shown us during our meeting.

12. The Association then closed in order to meet at the time and place appointed.

H. T. GRAVES, Clerk.

JAS. B. FRANKLIN,

Moderator.

DECLARATION OF FAITH

OF THE WILLS CREEK PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

1. We believe in only one true and living God—the Father, Word and Holy Ghost.

2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the fall of man, and that he is not able by his own free will and ability to recover himself therefrom.

4. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ imputed to them.

5. We believe in the doctrine of election by grace in Christ, and that God, according to His own foreknowledge, purpose and grace, chose His people in Christ before the foundation of the world, through sanctification of the Holy Spirit and belief of the truth.

6. We believe that the saints will persevere in and be persevered by grace and never finally fall away nor be lost.

7. We believe that baptism and the sacrament of the Lord's Supper and washing of the saints' feet are ordinances of divine worship; and the proper legal communicants, persons born of the Spirit and baptized by a legal administrator, and the true scriptural mode of performance is to bury the body all over in water, and that true believers are the only fit subjects.

8. We believe that no minister has a right to administer the ordinance of the Gospel only such as are legally baptized, called and ordained by laying on of hands and prayer by a Presbytery.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, general judgment, that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting and the joys of the righteous eternal.

RULES OF DECORUM

BY WHICH THE ASSOCIATION IS TO BE GOVERNED.

1. The members regularly chosen by the churches shall compose the Association.

2. The members thus chosen shall produce letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, together with the date of the churches since their last representation.

3. The members thus chosen and convened shall be denominated the WILLS CREEK PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

4. The Association shall have a Moderator and a Clerk, chosen by the suffrages of the members present by ballot, and the person to preach the introductory sermon.

5. Any church belonging to the Association shall be entitled to three representatives and no more.

6. Any church desiring admittance to the Association shall petition by letter and delegates, and being found orthodox, shall be received by the Association and manifested by the Moderator giving the delegates the right hand of fellowship.

7. This Association shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor to infringe upon any internal rights of the church.

8. Every motion made and seconded shall be put to a vote unless withdrawn by the one that made it, and a majority in all cases decide.

9. Every member who speaks in debate shall rise to his feet and address the Moderator.

10. The appellation of Brother or Brethren shall be used in all our addresses to each other.

11. No member shall be permitted to speak more than three times in debate on any subject without leave from the Association.

12. No query shall be taken under consideration by the Association, except where serious errors of difficulty are likely to arise, and cannot be settled by the church, nor by the help of any other churches which she may call upon; then if not settled, she may send it to the Association.

13. No member shall absent himself from the Association without the leave of the Association.

14. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if need be, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association rises.

15. Any amendment or alteration may be made to these rules as to the form of government at any time when a majority of the members of the Association deem it expedient.

Statistical Table . . .

CHURCHES	DELEGATES	MINISTERS	POST OFFICE	Baptized.	Rec'd by letter	Dis. and by letter	Restored.	Excluded.	Dead.	Total.	Contributions.,	Sub'th of Attu'g
1ST DISTRICT											\$ cts.	
Antioch.	Booth letters tabled.											
Black Oak.	G W Wade, H N O Rains.										25 80 3	
Mt Pleasant.	Pearce Roden, H T Graves, A Graves.										16 50 1	
New Bethel.	P J Meadows, John Meadows	J M Meadows, P J Meadows.									42 1 10 2	
Little Creek.	Jessie Oliver	[Norwood]									14 50 2	
Pine Grove	M L Oliver, Thos Broyles, D B J Mitchell, J Bone, M Oliver.	[W. W. Oliver]									13 25 1	
Shoal Creek.	Booth letters tabled	J A Harrison, W S Dowdy									35 1 00 4	
2ND DISTRICT											50 1 00	
Corinth.	L M Dawson, H H Nichols, R J E Phillips	[Wilks]										
Mt Zion	J H F Guest										52 1 00 1	
Macedonia.	John York, John Scott, [degrass]	J M Pritchett.									56 75 2	
Red Hill.	J P Morgan, J B Franklin, A R Pen.	J B Franklin.									167 2 00 4	
Liberty.	J T Perry, R J Wilks, M F Wilks, J T Perry.										36 1 00 3	
Union Ga. . .	Not represented.										27 60 3	
Union, Ala	J M Lacy.										15 50 1	
Ordained ministers are marked thus *												
Total.				45	2	3	1	7			\$66 \$11 00	

